In the Claims

1-8. (cancelled)

9. (previously presented) A filter device, comprising:

at least one filter element having a dirty side;

a filter housing receiving said filter element therein and having an inlet opening supplying contaminated fluid to said dirty side of said filter element and an outlet opening for flow of filtered fluid from said filter housing;

a fluid container with fluid connections;

a bayonet catch on said filter housing and said fluid container for releasably coupling and disengaging said filter housing and said fluid container by rotation of said filter housing relative to said fluid container;

a rotary disk valve pivotally mounted in said fluid container to open and close said fluid connections, said disk valve having inlet and outlet connecting sleeves forming extensions of said fluid connections, extending into an interior of said filter housing and transferring rotary motion of said filter housing to drive said rotary disk valve, said inlet and outlet connecting sleeves penetrating said inlet and outlet openings, respectively;

inlet and outlet valves at said inlet and outlet openings, respectively, said valves having blocking bodies movable between open positions allowing flow through said openings and closed positions blocking flow through said openings, said valves having closing springs biasing the blocking bodies thereof to the closed positions thereof; and

inlet and outlet control lugs on said inlet and outlet connecting sleeves, respectively, projecting into said interior of said filter housing and directly contacting said blocking bodies of said inlet and outlet valves, respectively, when said filter housing is attached to said filter container to move said blocking bodies from said closed positions to said open position against biasing of said closing springs.

10. (previously presented) A filter device according to claim 9 wherein

said fluid container comprises a hydraulic tank.

11. (previously presented) A filter device according to claim 9 wherein

said filter housing mostly has a circular cylindrical shape;

a bottom part with said inlet and outlet opening therein closes an axial end of said filter housing connected to said fluid container;

a cover part seals an axial end of said filter housing opposite said bottom part; and

said bayonet catch comprises radially projecting bayonet ribs on a peripheral edge surrounding said bottom part and a bayonet ring, said bayonet ribs projecting diametrically opposite one another, said bayonet ring being attached to a connecting plate of said fluid container and surrounding said rotary disk valve, said rotary disk valve being pivoted on said connecting plate to open and close said fluid connections formed in said connecting plate.

12. (previously presented) A filter device according to claim 11 wherein

said connecting plate comprises a bottom of a tank compartment in said fluid container;

said tank compartment has a removable tank cover controlling access to said tank compartment, said filter housing being held in said tank compartment between said connecting plate and said tank cover; and

said fluid container comprises a hydraulic tank.

13. (previously presented) A filter device according to claim 12 wherein

said cover part comprises a handle projecting axially therefrom for rotating said housing and actuating said bayonet catch;

said tank cover is movable between a tank open position and a tank closed position, and comprises a recess receiving said handle when said tank cover is in said tank closed position only when said filter housing is in a rotary position corresponding to a locking position of said bayonet catch.

14. (currently amended) A filter device according to claim 9 wherein

said bayonet catch comprises bayonet ribs extending radially outwardly from a peripheral surface of said filter housing, and a bayonet ring in said fluid container receiving said ~~fluid~~filter housing and having inwardly opening bayonet recesses mating with said ribs.

15. (previously presented) A filter device according to claim 9 wherein

said inlet and outlet connecting sleeves extend into said inlet and outlet openings, respectively.

16. (previously presented) A filter device according to claim 10 wherein

said hydraulic tank comprises a tank compartment with bottom and side walls therein, said bottom wall supporting said rotary disk valve and having said fluid connections therein.